



DONALD L. WOLFE, Director

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

*"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"*

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May 25, 2006

IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: **PD-5**

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**BUS PASS SUBSIDY PROGRAM  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY METROPOLITAN TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY  
PROPOSITION A LOCAL RETURN TRANSIT PROGRAM  
FISCAL YEAR 2006-07  
ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS  
3 VOTES**

### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Approve the continuation of the Program to provide subsidized monthly bus fares for eligible County of Los Angeles unincorporated area residents as part of the County's Proposition A Local Return Transit Program for Fiscal Year 006-07 at an estimated cost of \$1,554,100.
2. Authorize the Director of Public Works, or his designee, to negotiate and execute an Agreement with the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro) to continue this Program.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Since 1985, your Board has approved agreements with Metro, or its predecessor agencies, providing for them to sell monthly bus passes at a reduced rate to eligible seniors, persons with disabilities, and students residing in all unincorporated areas of the County. In January 2005, your Board approved expanding this service to provide subsidized Metro and EZ bus passes for the General Public residing in the unincorporated areas of the First, Second, Fourth, and Fifth Supervisorial Districts.

The Program encourages the use of public transit and provides eligible residents in unincorporated areas financial assistance in meeting their transit needs. This action will provide for the continuation of the subsidized bus passes for Fiscal Year 2006-07.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

This action meets the County Strategic Plan Goal of Service Excellence by administering this Program with Metro to provide services to the public in a cost-effective manner. This Program will reduce monthly bus pass costs for eligible seniors, persons with disabilities, students, and the general public, thereby improving access to Metro's transit system.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The anticipated cost of the Fiscal Year 2006-07 Program for each Supervisorial District is as follows:

<u>District</u>	<u>Subsidy/Certifications</u>	<u>Baldwin Hills Center</u>	<u>Metro Administration</u>	<u>Totals FY 2006-07</u>
1	\$ 731,200	\$ 0	\$ 67,700	\$ 798,900
2	\$ 189,500	\$80,000	\$ 17,600	\$ 287,100
3	\$ 5,000	\$ 0	\$ 500	\$ 5,500
4	\$ 100,600	\$ 0	\$ 9,300	\$ 109,900
5	<u>\$ 322,800</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 29,900</u>	<u>\$ 352,700</u>
Total	\$1,349,100	\$80,000	\$125,000	\$1,554,100

The maximum obligation to Metro for the Fiscal Year 2006-07 Bus Pass Subsidy Program is \$1,554,100.

The necessary funds are available in each Supervisorial District's Proposition A Local Return Transit Program, included in the proposed Fiscal Year 2006-07 Transit Enterprise Fund Budget. There will be no impact on the County's General Fund.

## **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

This Program permits the sales of monthly Metro bus passes as follows:

<u>Metro Pass Category</u>	<u>Regular Cost</u>	<u>County Subsidy</u>	<u>Cost to Eligible County Residents</u>
Seniors and Disabled	\$12.00	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.00
Students (Grades K-12)	\$20.00	\$ 8.00	\$12.00
College	\$30.00	\$11.00	\$19.00
*General Public	\$52.00	\$14.00	\$38.00
<u>EZ Pass Category</u>			
Seniors and Disabled	\$29.00	\$14.00	\$15.00
*General Public	\$58.00	\$14.00	\$44.00

\*The County subsidies for the General Public Monthly Metro and EZ Passes are only available to eligible residents in Supervisorial Districts 1, 2, 4, and 5.

The Program also calls for Metro to review applicants' addresses to certify that they are eligible to participate in this Program and to document in which Supervisorial District the applicant resides. Student certifications, which must be renewed annually, include a 12-month punch card to ensure that only one pass per month is purchased. The County will pay Metro \$0.65 for each student monthly pass sold to cover Metro's processing cost of the punch card. Disabled certifications must be renewed from every three months to three years depending upon the disability, and senior certifications must be renewed every five years. Metro currently determines the eligibility of each General Public Monthly Pass purchaser at the time of purchase. Metro is working toward an annual certification and punch card for the General Public Monthly Passes. Metro charges the following for certification processing fees:

<u>Pass Category</u>	<u>Certification Fee</u>
Students	\$4.05
Seniors and Disabled	\$2.75
**General Public	\$4.05

\*\*The General Public Certification Fee is not applicable until Metro implements the annual certification and punch card.

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The final Agreement will permit Metro to provide subsidized monthly bus fares for eligible County of Los Angeles unincorporated area residents and administer the Program at a maximum cost of \$1,554,100. The Agreement will be approved as to form by County Counsel prior to the Director of Public Works, or his designee, signing it. The County's payment to Metro will be based on the actual cost incurred by Metro.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

On June 5, 2001, Synopsis 63, your Board found this service to be exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act .

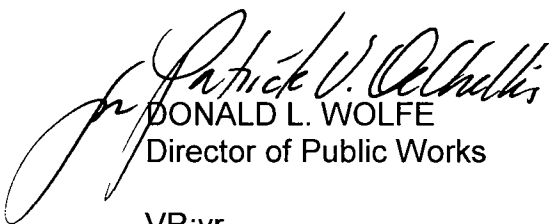
#### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

This action will not affect County personnel and provides for continuation of the current service.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Upon approval, please return two adopted copies of this letter to Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,



DONALD L. WOLFE  
Director of Public Works

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cc: Chief Administrative Office  
County Counsel